

§ 591.403

(1) Children who are unmarried and under 21 years of age or, regardless of age, are incapable of self-support, including natural children, step and adopted children, and those under legal guardianship or custody of the employee or the spouse when they are expected to be under such legal guardianship or custody at least until they reach 21 years of age and when dependent upon and normally residing with the guardian;

(2) Parents (including step and legally adoptive parents) of the employee or of the spouse when such parents are at least 51 percent dependent on the employee for support;

(3) Sisters and brothers (including step or adoptive sisters and brothers) of the employee or of the spouse, when such sisters and brothers are at least 51 percent dependent on the employee for support, unmarried and under 21 years of age, or regardless of age, are incapable of self-support; or

(4) Spouse, excluding a spouse independently entitled to and receiving a similar allowance.

Johnston Island, also called Johnston Atoll, is a possession of the United States located 717 nautical miles southwest of Honolulu, Hawaii.

Separate maintenance allowance means an allowance to assist an employee assigned to Johnston Island who is compelled by reason of dangerous, notably unhealthful, or excessively adverse living conditions at Johnston Island, or for the convenience of the Government, to meet the additional expense of maintaining family members at a location other than Johnston Island.

[61 FR 27244, May 31, 1996]

§ 591.403 Amount of payment.

(a) The annual rate of the separate maintenance allowance paid to an employee shall be determined by the number of individuals, including a spouse and/or one or more other family members, that are maintained at a location other than Johnston Island.

(b) The annual rates for the separate maintenance allowance paid to employees assigned to Johnston Island shall be the same as the annual rates for the separate maintenance allowance established by the Department of State in its *Standardized Regulations*

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(*Government Civilians, Foreign Areas*). The annual rates shall not vary by location of the separate household.

(c) The annual rates of the separate maintenance allowance shall be adjusted on the first day of the first pay period beginning on or after July 1, 1996 and, subsequently, on the first day of the first pay period beginning on or after the effective date established for adjustment of annual rates for the separate maintenance allowance in the *Standardized Regulations (Government Civilians, Foreign Areas)*.

[61 FR 27244, May 31, 1996]

§ 591.404 Method of payment.

(a) Separate maintenance allowance rates are paid from the employee's date of arrival at Johnston Island to the employee's date of departure from Johnston Island. No deductions are necessary for details away from Johnston Island or for partial days. The separate maintenance allowance shall be computed and paid at daily rates as follows:

(1) Divide the annual rate of payment by the number of days in the applicable calendar year to obtain a daily rate (counting one half-cent and over as a whole cent);

(2) Multiply the daily rate by 14 to obtain a biweekly rate; and

(3) Multiply the daily rate by the number of days involved to obtain the rate for any period.

(b) A separate maintenance allowance is not part of an employee's rate of basic pay for any purpose.

(c) The rate for any pay period shall be computed at the daily rate applicable on the first day of that pay period.

§ 591.405 Responsibilities of agencies.

Agencies with employees stationed at Johnston Island may require reasonable verification of relationship and dependency.

[61 FR 27244, May 31, 1996]

§ 591.406 Records and reports.

So that the Office of Personnel Management can evaluate agencies' use of this authority and provide the Congress and others with information regarding the use of a nonforeign separate maintenance allowance, each

agency shall maintain such records and submit to the Office of Personnel Management reports and data as requested.

PART 595—PHYSICIANS' COMPARABILITY ALLOWANCES

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AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 5948; E.O. 12109, 44 FR 1067, Jan. 3, 1979.

SOURCE: 44 FR 40876, July 13, 1979, unless otherwise noted.

§ 595.101 Purpose.

Section 5948 of title 5, United States Code, authorizes the payment of allowances to certain eligible Federal physicians who enter into service agreements with their agencies. These allowances are paid only to categories of physicians for which the agency is experiencing recruitment and retention problems and are fixed at the minimum amounts necessary to deal with such problems. The President has delegated regulatory responsibility for this program to the Director of OPM, acting in consultation with the Office of Management and Budget. This part contains the regulations, criteria and conditions which the Director of OPM, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, has prescribed for the administration of the physicians' comparability allowance program. This part supplements and implements 5 U.S.C. 5948 and should be read together with that section of law.

[69 FR 27817, May 17, 2004]

§ 595.102 Who is covered by this program?

(a) This program covers individuals employed as physicians under the Fed-

eral pay systems listed in 5 U.S.C. 5948(g)(1), except as provided in 5 U.S.C. 5948(b). For the purposes of this part, an individual is *employed as a physician* only if he or she is serving in a position the duties and responsibilities of which could not be satisfactorily performed by an incumbent who is not a physician.

(b) Section 5948(b) of title 5, United States Code, prohibits the payment of physicians' comparability allowances to certain physicians, including physicians who are reemployed annuitants. For the purpose of applying this prohibition, *reemployed annuitant* means an individual who is receiving or has title to and has applied for an annuity under any retirement program of the Government of the United States, or the government of the District of Columbia, on the basis of service as a civilian employee.

(c) Physicians employed and paid under title 38, United States Code, and Commissioned Corps officers of the Public Health Service under title 42, United States Code, are not eligible for physicians' comparability allowances.

[44 FR 40876, July 13, 1979, as amended at 58 FR 65537, Dec. 15, 1993; 64 FR 72458, Dec. 28, 1999; 69 FR 27817, May 17, 2004]

§ 595.103 What requirements must agencies establish for determining which physician positions are covered?

(a) The head of each agency must determine categories of physician positions for which there is a significant recruitment and retention problem, and physicians' comparability allowances may be paid only to physicians serving in positions in such categories.

(b) In determining categories of physician positions, the head of each agency must, as a minimum, establish as separate categories the following types of positions:

(1) Positions primarily involving the practice of medicine or direct service to patients, involving the performance of diagnostic, preventive, or therapeutic services to patients in hospitals, clinics, public health programs, diagnostic centers, and similar settings, but not including positions described in paragraph (b)(3) of this section;